

REMARKS

By this amendment: (1) an election of invention and species has been made, with traverse; (2) new claim 24 is added to better define the invention; and (3) claim 1 is amended to better define the invention.

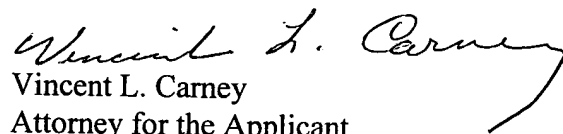
Claims 1-24 are now in this application. In view of the above amendments and the remarks hereinafter, it is respectfully requested that this application be reconsidered.

In response to the Office action dated February 23, 2005, Group 1, claims 1-9 and 24 directed to a method of manufacturing a column and an election of species 2 directed to FIGS. 11 and 12 is made. Claims 1, 5-8, 10-18 and 20-23 are generic and read on either the species of FIGS. 11 and 12 or the species of FIGS. 1-6. Claims 3, 4 and 24 read on FIGS. 11 and 12 and are directed to species 2, the elected species. The remainder of the claims are directed to species 1.

The claims of Group I, II, and III are related to each other as a method of making a chromatographic column, a method of performing chromatography using a chromatographic column and a chromatographic column are all interwoven. Clearly, they are not independent and distinct inventions and the requirement for restriction is improper. The requirement for an election of species is improper because the number of species is small and not burdensome on the Patent Office.

Since generic claims are allowable, the requirement for restriction is not proper, and the claims are all allowable, it is respectfully requested that the requirements for an election of invention and an election of a species be withdrawn and this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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